TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS / 250NM / 20 JUL - 1 AUG 2024

12 DAYS / CAT 3 CRUISE / EVENT #2442 / MAGIC MILES: CREW POSITIONS AVAILABLE

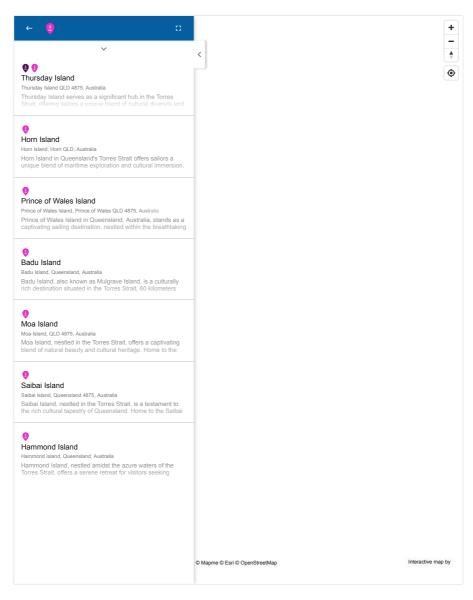
OVERVIEW

Embarking on a sailing expedition around the Torres Strait Islands is an adventure that combines the allure of unspoiled nature with the rich tapestry of cultural and historical significance. Nestled between the northern tip of Queensland, Australia, and Papua New Guinea, the Torres Strait is a labyrinth of over 270 islands. This journey provides an in-depth exploration of up to seven of these islands, each with its own unique charm and story.

{Brief summary of the event and relevant promo video}



PASSAGE PLAN





{Build map and integrate images}

CREW REGISTRATION

Secure your place on the crew with deposit options from 20%.

SINGLE BERTH: AUD\$8,750 PRIVATE CABIN:AUD\$23,625 (3 BERTHS)

JOIN CREW

 $\{Insert\ prices\ and\ private\ cabin\ options\ if\ MM\ and\ TK\}$

EXPEDITION DESCRIPTION {USE CHAT GPT HELP WRITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY OF KEY STOPS AND ADD IMAGES}





Thursday Island (Waiben)

Our voyage begins at Thursday Island, often regarded as the administrative and commercial center of the Torres Strait. This island holds a significant place in history as a former pearl diving hub. Visitors can delve into its multicultural past at the Gab Titui Cultural Centre, which showcases the art and history of the Torres Strait Islander people. The island's World War II fortifications are a stark reminder of its strategic importance in Australian military history.

Horn Island (Ngarupai)

Neighboring Thursday Island, Horn Island played a crucial role during World War II as an airbase. The island's Torres Strait Heritage Museum offers insights into this era with extensive displays of military relics and local history. The untouched beaches and the tranquil environment make it an ideal spot for reflection and relaxation.





Prince of Wales Island (Muralug)

Prince of Wales Island, the largest in the Torres Strait, is a haven for nature lovers. Its vast mangroves and rainforests are home to an array of wildlife, including the endemic cuscus. The island's rugged terrain and secluded beaches offer a perfect backdrop for hiking and exploring.

Badu Island (Mulgrave Island)

On the sixth day, we sail to Badu Island, known for its rich cultural heritage and traditional arts, particularly sculpture and pottery. The island has a strong connection to the sea, reflected in its fishing and boat-building traditions. Visitors can witness the intricate artistry of the locals, who are known for their skills in crafting pearl shell, wood, and other materials.





Moa Island, composed of two main communities, Mabuiag and Kubin, is steeped in myth and legend. It is known for its vibrant artistic community, with local art centers fostering traditional and contemporary arts. The island's landscapes range from sandy beaches to dense rainforests, offering varied experiences for visitors.

Saibai Island

Situated close to the Papua New Guinea mainland, Saibai Island is flat and swampy, known for its rich birdlife and traditional dances. The islanders maintain a strong cultural connection to their land and traditions, evident in their daily lives and cultural festivals.





Hammond Island (Keriri)

 $Hammond \ Island, a small, tranquil \ location, is known for its historic Catholic church, St. \ Joseph's. The island's laid-back atmosphere is perfect for unwinding and enjoying the simpler aspects of island life. The friendly local community often shares stories and traditions, providing a deeper understanding of the Torres Strait culture.$

Return to Thursday Island

Our journey concludes where it began, on Thursday Island. This final day allows for reflection on the rich tapestry of cultures, histories, and natural beauty experienced throughout the trip.

Throughout this sailing odyssey, each island reveals a unique facet of the Torres Strait's mosaic. From the echoes of wartime history on Horn and Thursday Islands to the artistic vibrancy of Moa and Badu Islands, and the untouched natural splendor of Prince of Wales Island, the journey is as educational as it is exhilarating. Navigating the azure waters of the Strait, one not only traverses geographical distances but also journeys through a rich cultural and historical narrative that has shaped this unique corner of the world. Note: the selected destination islands may change once permits are finalised.





Most of the time we will be using visual navigation however, with the large tides driving tidal races of up to 4 knots, uncharted bommies and moving sand bars we will be undertaking daily passage and pilotage planning. This provides the opportunity for you to brush up on your pilotage and navigation skills if you wish to be involved.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDED

- Coastal exploring
- Venturing ashore
- Snorkeling
- Swimming
- Cultural excursions

- Kayaking
- Stand-up paddle boarding
- Fishing
- Historic places
- Dining out









 $\{ List\ relevant\ activities\ with\ links\ to\ example\ pages \}$

HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL EXPERIENCE ONBOARD

- Sailing: Hoisting, trimming and reefing both upwind (main, genoas, and jibs) and downwind sails (poled out headsails, spinnakers, gennakers and code 0's (subject to weather).
- Watch duties: Acting as watch captain (day and night), helming, navigating, checking weather and monitoring AIS and radar and for both traffic and rain squalls.
- Weather: Downloading and analysing the latest weather forecasts and calculating best route to destination
- Navigation: Navigating, hazard identification, entering waypoints and calculating updated ETA's.
- Leadership: Watch roster planning, matching responsibility to experience, crew management and communication.

- Safety: Familiarisation of all safety procedures, sail planning, storm preparation planning and abandon ship procedures.
- Training: Use of PDF's (Personal Flotation Devices),
 PLB's (Personal Locator Beacons), safety tethers, dan
 buoy's, storm drogue, liferaft and any other equipment
 required to ensure you remain safe in all conditions.
- Personal wellbeing: Advice on how to take responsibility for managing clothing, hydration, sleep and nutrition to maintain your health and well being aboard.
- Passage planning: Planning our arrival and route to safe harbour including timing with daylight (if required), weather factors, navigational hazards, communications / customs and sail/motor arrival plan.









{List relevant experiences with links to example pages}

EXTRA RESOURCES

- Past events
- Why sail with us?
- What to expect onboard

{List relevant resources with links to example pages}

- Wikipedia
- Downloadable brochure
- Relevant Podcast

ITINERY

You'll fly into Thursday Island on the 20th of July 2024. We'll have a crew welcome dinner that night and complete final preparations for departure the next day. On the 21st of July we'll depart Thursday Island and head for our first of many island stopovers. You are welcome to stay onboard on the night of the 20th of July, but if you plan to arrive prior to the 20th, you will need to arrange accommodation ashore.

The goal is to take in the magic of Torres Strait, stopping at a handful of scenic bays, anchorages and islands, while managing around the weather to ensure a comfortable and safe 11-day cruise. We'll aim to be tied up back at Thursday Island by 4pm on the 31st of July for our final crew dinner and you can plan to depart Thursday Island from the 1st of August onwards.

{The key is to write a brief arrival and departure itinerary so people can plan flight / transport times}





GETTING TO AND FROM THE YACHT

- Arrival Airport: Thursday Island
- Departure Airport: Thursday Island
- Accommodation: If you want to stay ashore either side of trip: AirBNB, Booking.com, Wotif & HomeAway.

- Land transport: Taxis / shuttles / uber etc
- Sea transport: Ferries to relevant island ports

{Research and customise for each event}

INCLUSIONS

Your crew package includes; all meals onboard and ashore, and accommodation onboard throughout the duration of the event. It also incudes your Ocean Sailing Expeditions crew shirt, marina fees, any cruising permits and local taxes, the use of a PFD (personal floatation device), PLB (personal locator beacon), and a safety tether. Your bedding, a pillow and towel are also included along with suncream.

PRIVATE CABINS

There are 2 and 3 berth options available in singles in doubles. If you reserve a 3-berth cabin for the use of 2 or less people, the rate is the 3-berth rate, less a 10% discount. If you reserve a 2-berth cabin for the use of 1 person, the rate is the 2-berth rate, less a 10% discount.

EXCLUSIONS

Your crew package excludes; accommodation ashore, flights and transport to and from departure and arrival ports, alcohol, toiletries, clothing and wet weather gear. Its always recommended that you book flights with date flexibility incase of unforeseen changes due to weather or schedules. Visa applications for entry (if required), related fees and travel insurance are also excluded.

JOIN CREW

Review sailing calendar for all events

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